

## CHURCH SESSION

### Class of 2023

Rosemary Gordon  
Sharon Ragghianti  
Becky Stirling

### Class of 2024

Akwi Lillian Aseh  
Susie Hayes  
Janet Wawter  
Moderator: John Michael Krech  
Clerk: Becky Stirling  
Treasurer: Jere Lawson

### Class of 2025

Jere Lawson  
John Price  
Matthew Smith

## CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	John Michael Krech, jmkrech@yahoo.com
Organist/Choirmaster	Susan Steppe, susansteppe@comcast.net
Director Tech. Services/Instrumental Music	Bob Vawter, bvawter@bellsouth.net
Director of Children & Youth Ministry	Cristaldawn Smith, revmiss2002@yahoo.com
Nursery Attendants	Kathe Walker & Judy Thigpun
Financial Administrator/Admin Asst.	Betsy Lewis, blewis@grace-pres.org
Sexton	Scott Hunter
Director of Grace Pres. Child Care	Jill Bailey, childcare@grace-pres.org

### Grace Presbyterian Church

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Please consider Grace Presbyterian Church in your estate planning.



Grace Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA),  
Presbytery of the Mid-South, Synod of Living Waters.

# Grace Presbyterian Church

Worships God at 11:00 a.m.

**April 30, 2023**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter/Good Shepherd Sunday**

## **The Bell Calls Us to Worship**

**Prelude** The Strife Is O'er (Based on "Victory" G. P. Palestrina, 1591)  
arr. Don Hustad

The congregation stands to sing

### **Hymn 108**

Christ Is Alive!

Truro

### **Easter Greeting**

**Pastor:** Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**People:** **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Pastor:** Let us pray.

**Prayer for the Day** (spoken by the pastor; the congregation joining the **Amen**.)

Jesus, Good Shepherd of the sheep, by whom the lost are sought and guided into the fold: Feed us and we shall be satisfied, heal us and we shall be whole, and lead us that we may be with you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**An Affirmation of Faith for Easter** Heidelberg Catechism, 1563

**Pastor:** What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**Unison:** **That I belong, body and soul, in life and in death,**

**not to myself, but to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ,**

**who at the cost of his own blood, has fully paid for all my sins**

**and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil;**

**that he protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven**

**not a hair can fall from my head.**

**Indeed, everything must fit his purpose for my salvation.**

**Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life**

**and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

**Pastor:** The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Passing of the Peace** (Worshippers safely greet one another with the peace of Christ and then sit for the announcements.)

## Welcome and Announcements

The children bring their ringing offering and come to the Baptismal Font for a  
**Time for Young Christians**

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 111** Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing! Gelobt Sei Gott

The congregation sits.

## Prayer for Illumination

**First Lesson** Acts 2:42-47

**Psalm 23** Unison

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures.

He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul.

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me;

thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.

Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

**Anthem** Because He Lives Medley  
(Because He Lives, Amen; Ed Cash et. al.; Because He Lives; William Gaither  
Sung by Akwi Aseh and Awaiwing Itambi

**Epistle** 1 Peter 2:19-25

**Gospel** John 10:1-10

**Sermon** The Lord Is My Shepherd Mike Krech  
"The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want." Psalm 23:1

The congregation stands to sing

**Hymn 387** Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us Bradbury

**Apostles' Creed** Unison; Hymnal, page 14, Traditional

**Gloria for Easter Season** Refrain of Hymn 122 Judas Maccabeus

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son.

Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.

The congregation sits.

## Pastoral Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession, and Dedication

**The Lord's Prayer** (debts/debtors) Unison; Hymnal, page 16, Traditional

## Offertory Sentence

**Offertory** Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts (St. Agnes by John B. Dykes)  
with If with All Your Hearts (Elijah by Felix Mendelssohn)  
arr. Anna Laura Page

The congregation stands to sing the

**Doxology for Easter Season** (to the tune of Hymn 455) Lasst Uns Erfreuen

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;**

**Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

## Benediction

**Hymn 172** My Shepherd Will Supply My Need Resignation

The congregation is encouraged to be seated for the postlude,

or you may depart the sanctuary quietly and quickly now if necessary.

**Postlude** Christ Is Alive (Truro, from Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789)  
arr. Jason D. Payne

**Welcome to worship** at Grace Presbyterian Church.

Today is the fourth Sunday of the season of Easter, which extends through the Great Fifty Days from Easter Day through Pentecost (April 9 – May 28, 2023).

Today is also known as Good Shepherd Sunday, as the Gospel reading each year is from John 10, wherein Jesus calls himself the Good Shepherd. JMK

## Hymn Texts for Online Worship

### **Christ Is Alive**

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound To distant years in Palestine,  
But saving, healing, here and now, And touching every place and time.

Not throned afar, remotely high, Untouched, unmoved by human pains,  
But daily, in the midst of life, Our Savior in the Godhead reigns.

In every insult, rift, and war, Where color, scorn, or wealth divide,  
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, And lives, where even hope has died.

Christ is alive and comes to bring Good news to this and every age,  
Till earth and sky and ocean ring With joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian Wren 1968, rev.;

Tune: TRURO; Thomas Williams, 1789, Harm. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

### **Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing**

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our King!  
To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Lord of life is risen today! Bring flowers of song, bedeck the way;  
Let every tongue rejoice and say: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise we in songs of victory That love, that life which cannot die,  
And sing with hearts uplifted high: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thy name we bless, O risen Lord, And sing today with one accord  
The life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1931, alt;

Tune: GELOBT SEI GOTT; Melchior Vulpius, 1609; as in *Pilgrim Hymnal*, 1958

### **Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us**

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, Much we need Thy tender care;  
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us, For our use Thy folds prepare:  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

Thou hast promised to receive us, Poor and sinful though we be;  
Thou hast mercy to relieve us, Grace to cleanse and power to free:  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Early let us turn to Thee;  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Early let us turn to Thee.

Early let us seek Thy favor, Early let us do Thy will;  
Blessed Lord and only Savior, With Thy love our bosoms fill.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still.

Text: Thrupp's Hymns for the Young, 1836;

Tune: BRADBURY; William Batchelder Bradbury, 1859

### **My Shepherd Will Supply My Need**

My Shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is His name:  
In pastures fresh He makes me feed Beside the living stream.  
He brings my wandering spirit back When I forsake His ways;  
And leads me, for His mercy's sake, In paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death Your presence is my stay;  
One word of Your supporting breath Drives all my fears away.  
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, Does still my table spread;  
My cup with blessings overflows, Your oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God Attend me all my days;  
O may Your house be my abode, And all my work be praise.  
There would I find a settled rest, While others go and come;  
No more a stranger or a guest, But like a child at home.

Text: Paraphrase of Psalm 23 by Isaac Watts, 1719; alt, 1972;

Tune: RESIGNATION; Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1835;

Harm. Dale Grotenhuis, 1986